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August 1961

PHOTOGRAPHIC INTERPRETATION BRIEF

POSSIBLE ICBM LAUNCH SITE
NEAR
KOSTROMA, USSR



ARMY



NAVY



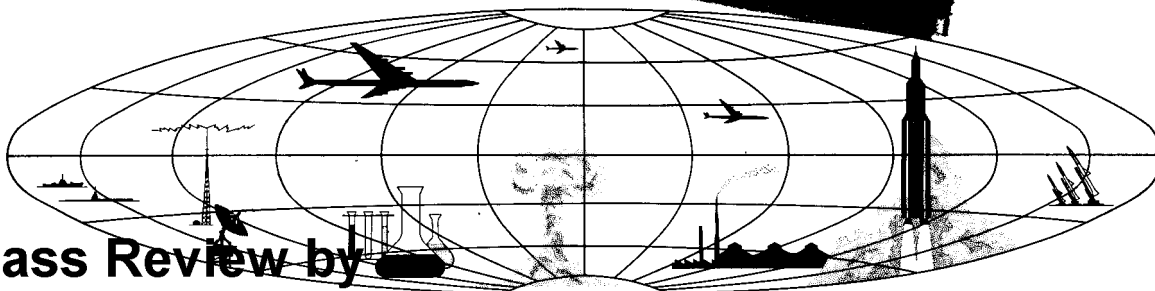
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POSSIBLE ICBM LAUNCH SITE NEAR KOSTROMA, USSR

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A possible ICBM launch site, not evident on [REDACTED] was observed under construction on [REDACTED]. The site is located at 58-00-40N 41-19-20E in a forested area 19 nautical miles (nm) northeast of Kostroma (Figure 1). Although the possible launch site at Kostroma is partially covered by clouds, four elongated clearings interconnected by a system of straight roads are visible. The road pattern and the arrangement and orientation of the elongated clearings are similar to Launch Areas B and D at Yur'ya, the Launch Area at Yoshkar-Ola, and Launch Area C at Tyura Tam (Figure 2). The only security measure discernible is a possible guard building located on the service road at the entrance to the site. There is a large unidentified scarred area 0.5 nm southeast of the possible launch site.

Three roads -- two under construction -- lead to the site area from the Kostroma/Buy highway. One of these roads has wide radius turns (approximately 350-foot radius) at its intersection with the highway.

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25X1A

The Kostroma/Galich railroad is 13 nm to the south and the nearest rail yard is at Kostroma. A search of [REDACTED] photography of this rail line revealed no rail spurs under construction in the vicinity of the site. Most of the rail line was cloud covered on [REDACTED] photography. Kostroma Airfield [REDACTED], located 18 nm to the southwest, is the nearest air facility.

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A search of the area within a 25-nm radius of the site did not reveal any SAM defenses. However, approximately 50-60 percent of the Kostroma area was cloud covered on [REDACTED]

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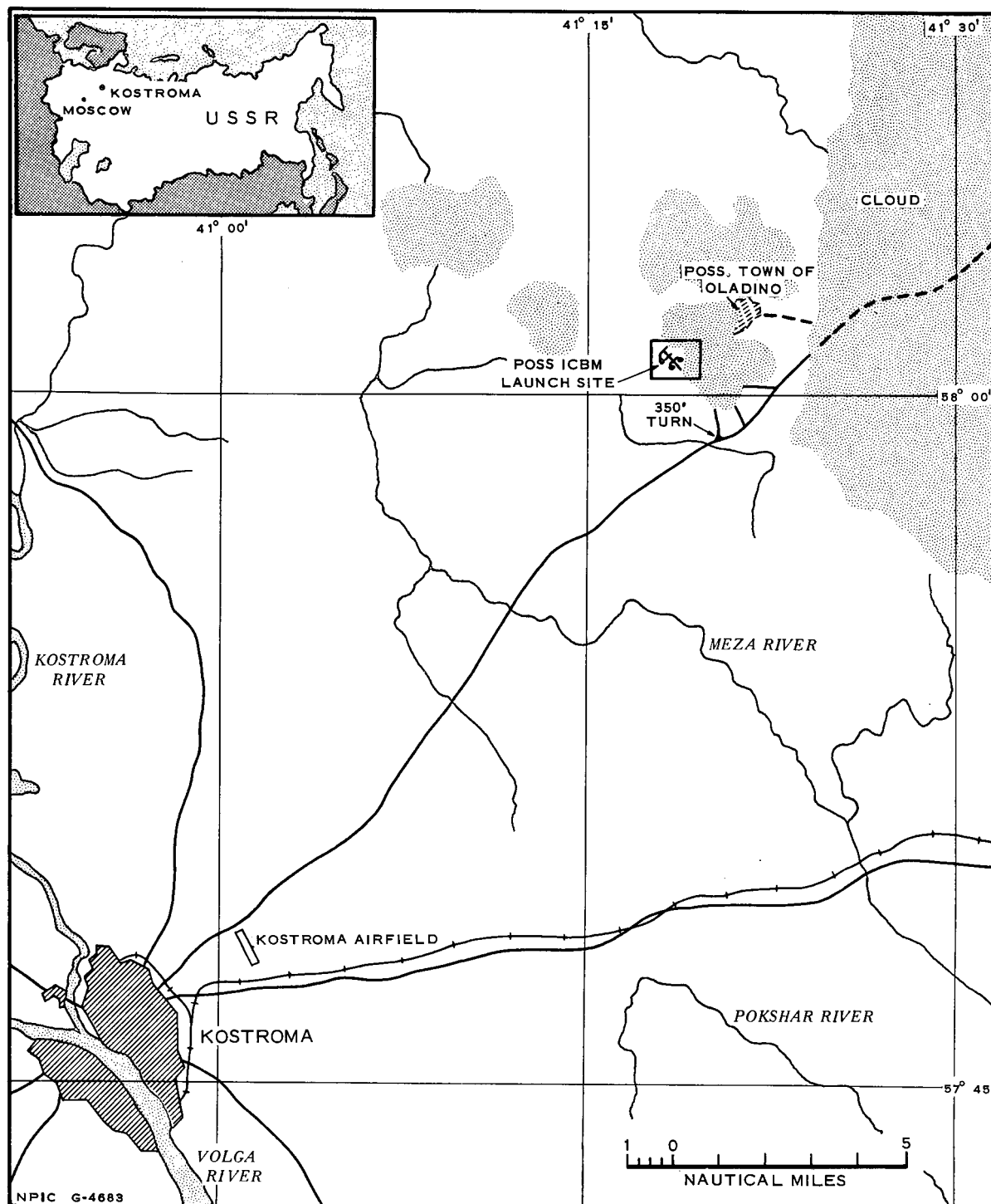


FIGURE 1. LOCATION OF POSSIBLE ICBM LAUNCH SITE NEAR KOSTROMA, USSR.

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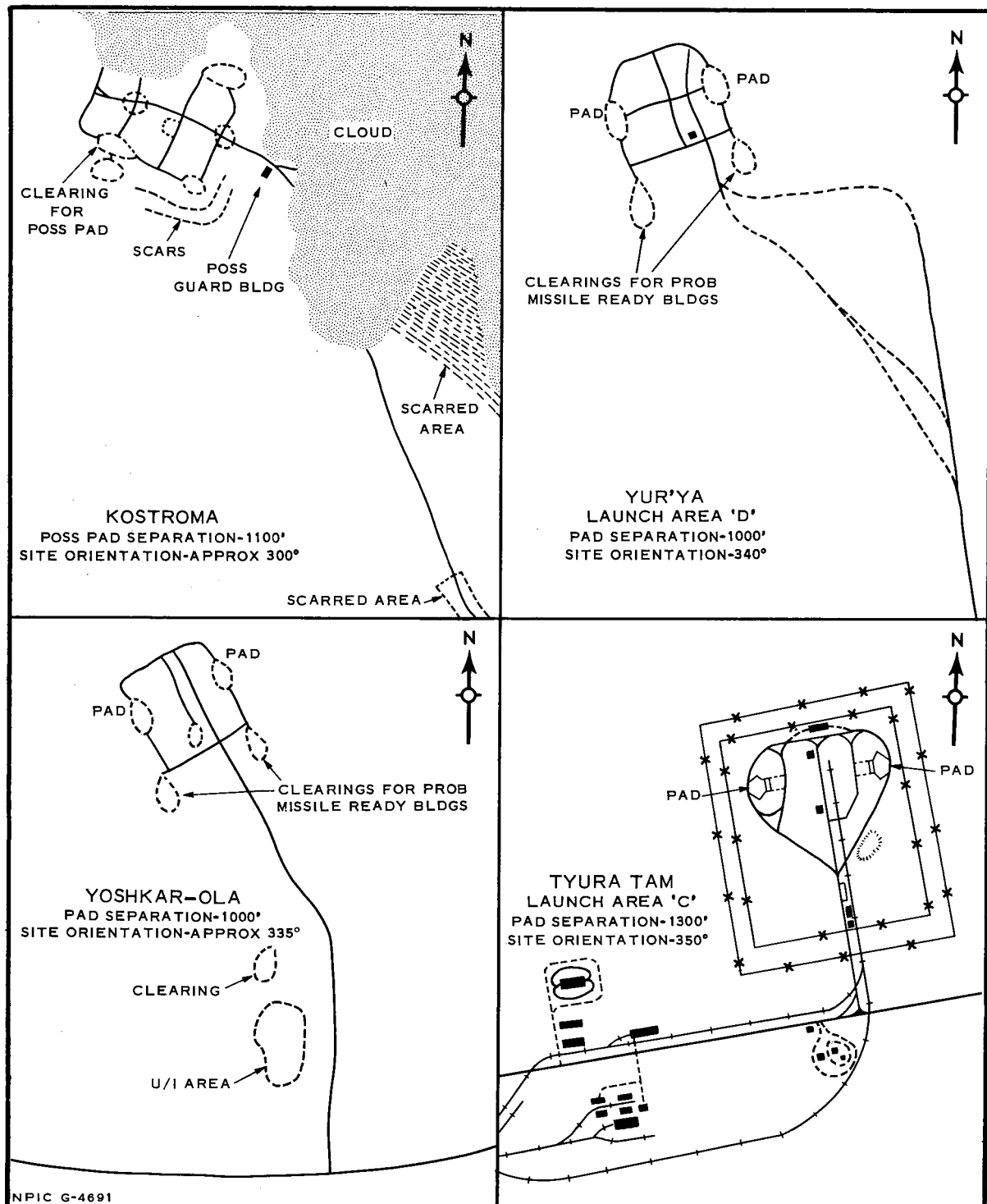
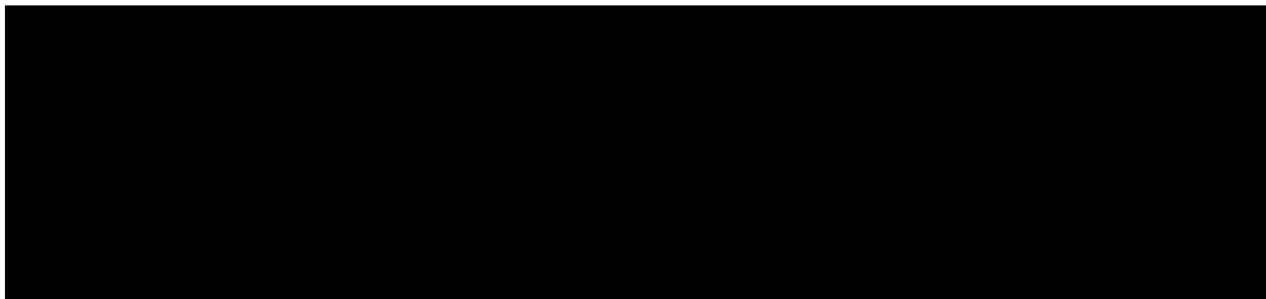


FIGURE 2. COMPARISON OF POSSIBLE LAUNCH AREA NEAR KOSTROMA WITH OTHER LAUNCH AREAS.

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REFERENCES

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MAPS OR CHARTS

- ACIC. ONC 154, 1st classified ed, Jun 59, scale 1:1,000,000 (C)
- SAC. US Air Target Chart, Series 200, 0154-14A, 1st ed, Nov 58, scale 1:200,000 (S)
- AMS. Series N501, Sheet No 37-6 (Danilov), 2nd ed, Mar 56, scale 1:250,000 (U)
- AMS. Series N501, Sheet No 37-9 (Kostroma), 2nd ed, Mar 57, scale 1:250,000 (U)

DOCUMENTS

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- NPIC. OAK [REDACTED] Supplement 1, Kostroma Area, Suspect ICBM Launch Site, July 61 (TSR)
- NPIC. R-1/61, ICBM Launch Complex, Yur'ya, USSR, Jul 61 (TSCR)
- NPIC. R-2/61, ICBM Launch Complex, Yoshkar-Ola, USSR, Jul 61 (TSCR)
- CIA. PIC/JR-8/61, Tyura Tam Missile Test Center, A Comparison of [REDACTED] Photography, Aug 61 (TSCR)

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REQUIREMENT

- CIA. DDI/RR/E/R35/61

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